

**Table 2a**  
**Proposed regulations: Distribution Operators Estimated First Year**  
**Examination/Certification Fees**

**Assumptions:**

1. There are approx. 10,500 people working as distribution operators at the time the reg is adopted; they will need to be certified.
- 2,110 will take the exam the first year, 7,393 will have AWWA certification and be deemed to have state certificates, but must renew them the first year for a one-time renewal period of two years, and 1,000 will be grandparented via interim certification for 3 to 6 years.
- 2: Fees incurred during the first year after adoption consist of application/exam fees for 2,110 operators, certification for those who pass, renewal and certification fees for AWWA operators who obtain state certification, and certification fees for 1,000 interim operators.
3. Proportions of 10,500 distribution operators among the five grades will be similar to that of applicants for treatment operator exams grades 1 through 5 (37%, 40%, 14%, 7%, and 2%, respectively), except for known distribution of 7393 AWWA operators (grades 2 through 5: 63%, 29%, 7%, and 1%, respectively).
4. There are 2 exams/year; based on 1997-99 treatment operator exam statistics, ~50% of examinees in a year will pass.
5. Operators will pay all fees below except for three types of savings:
  - a. Dual certification savings--operators who obtain both a treatment operator and distribution operator certificate either simultaneously or sequentially will get a discount on certification and renewal fees (see table 3)
  - b. Operators will no longer need to pay AWWA certification fees (est \$100,000/year total)
  - c. Apprx 100 grade 1 and 2 operators will have restricted certification (proposed reg. sec 63825); the employing water utilities are required to pay the application/exam fees. These are estimated to be <\$10,000.

**1) Fees for Distribution Operators who take exam to become certified (2,110 total)**

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total
<b>Application/Exam Fee (\$)</b>	50	65	100	130	155	
# new applicants (see assumption 4)	781	844	295	148	42	
<i>Total Application Fees</i>	\$ 39,100	\$ 54,900	\$ 29,500	\$ 19,200	\$ 6,500	\$ 149,200
<b>Reexam Fee (\$)</b>	30	45	70	95	120	
# reexaminees (1/2 of new applicants)	391	422	148	74	21	
<i>Total Reexam Fees</i>	\$ 11,700	\$ 19,000	\$ 10,300	\$ 7,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 50,500
<b>Certification Fee (\$)</b>	70	80	120	140	140	
# certificates (1/2 of examinees)	391	422	148	74	21	
<i>Total Certificate Fees</i>	\$ 27,300	\$ 33,800	\$ 17,700	\$ 10,400	\$ 2,900	\$ 92,100
<b>Subtotal</b>						<b>\$ 291,800</b>

**2) Fees for Distribution Operators who obtain interim certification**

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total
<b>Certification Fee (\$)</b>	70	80	120	140	140	
# operators (see assumptions 1 & 4)	370	400	140	70	20	
<i>Total interim cert. fees</i>	\$ 25,900	\$ 32,000	\$ 16,800	\$ 9,800	\$ 2,800	\$ 87,300
<b>Subtotal</b>						<b>\$ 87,300</b>

**3) Fees for Distribution Operators who transition from AWWA certification**

Table 63815-A in proposed regulations has a schedule indicating the relationship between current AWWA distribution operator grades and proposed state grades; the first time renewal fee includes certification for 2 year and a \$25 certificate fee.

	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	
<b>First Time Renewal Fee (\$)</b>	\$ 80	\$ 100	\$ 120	\$ 120	
# operators, per AWWA statistics	4,663	2,143	503	84	7,393
<i>Total Fees for Each Grade</i>	\$ 373,000	\$ 214,300	\$ 60,400	\$ 10,100	
				<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 657,800</b>
<b>Estimated Distribution Operator Fees (Year 1)</b>					<b>\$ 1,036,900</b>
<b>4) Fee Savings for Operators obtaining dual certification (50%)</b>					
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
<b>Certification Fee Savings</b>					
Dual certification fee (\$)	55	60	90	105	105
Regular cost for a second certification (\$)	70	80	120	140	140
Savings (\$)	(15)	(20)	(30)	(35)	(35)
# certificates					
(1/2 applicants times 1 cert)	391	422	148	74	21
<i>Total Cert. Fee Savings</i>	\$ (5,900)	\$ (8,400)	\$ (4,400)	\$ (2,600)	\$ (700)
					<b>\$ (22,000)</b>
<b>Estimated Distribution Operator Fees Less Discount (Year 1)</b>					<b>\$ 1,014,900</b>